

Customer No. 31013

Atty. Docket No. 55990/8

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Laragh, John H.
Serial No.: to be determined
Filed: herewith
Examiner: Natnithithadha, N.
Group Art Unit: 3736
For: METHOD FOR EVALUATING AND TREATING HYPERTENSION

Mail Stop New Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

On page 1, before "FIELD OF THE INVENTION", insert the following:

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RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation of co-pending U.S. Patent Application No. 09/860,199, filed May 17, 2001, which is a continuation-in-part co-pending U.S. Patent Application No. 09/657,027, filed September 7, 2000.--

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-13 without prejudice.

Please add new claims 14-17 as follows:

**EXPRESS MAIL CERT. NO. EV328960981US
DATE OF DEPOSIT: July 21, 2003**